

## Message Text

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ACTION NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 W

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FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5317

S E C R E T CAIRO 9673

NODIS

FOR THE SECRETARY FROM AMBASSADOR

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: AEMR, US, LE

SUBJECT: EVACUATION FROM LEBANON

REF: STATE 176288

1. I MANAGED TO GET FAHMY AT HIS APRTMENT EARLY THIS EVENING AND GAVE HIM YOUR MESSAGE. HE READ IT CAREFULLYN NOTING AS HE WAS DOING SO THAT HE HAD HEARD ON THE RADIO THIS AFTERNOON THE ANNOUNCEMENT OF OUR PROPOSED EVACUATION. AFTER HE HAD READ IT, I ALSO READ TO HIM THOSE PORTIONS OF JIDDA 4855 REPORTING FAHD'S RECOMMENDATIONS THAT WE EVACUATE BEIRUT. HERE AGAIN HE LISTENED VERY CAREFULLY, BUT MADE NO COMMENT ON FAHD'S OBSERVATIONS. YOUR MESSAGE, INCIDENTALLY, SEEMED TO RE-ASSURE HIM CONSIDERABLY THAT WE HAVE NO ULTERIOR PURPOSE IN EVACUATING FROM BEIRUT.

2. ASKED IF HE HAD YET HAD A REPLY FROM THE PLO, HE SAID HE HAD NOT. THIS TIME, HOWEVER, HE SAID HE WAS REALLY NOT EXPECTING ANY DIRECT REPLY. THE EGYPTIAN AMBASSADOR IN BEIRUT IS INSTRUCTED TO KEEP CONTACT WITH THE PLO AND ANY PLO RESPONSE WILL COME THROUGH HIM. SHOULD THE EGYPTIAN AMBASSADOR ENCOUNTER DIFFICULTIES WITH THE PLO. HE WOULD INFORM FAHMY SO THAT THE LATTER CAN TAKE WHATEVER FOLLOW-UP ACTION IS NECESSARY. FAHMY AGAIN STRESSED THAT HE IS CONFIDENT THAT THE PLO WILL

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COOPERATE IN EVERY WAY, AS THEY DID LAST MONTH, AND THAT

WE SHOULD COMMUNICATE DIRECTLY WITH THE PLO IN BEIRUT THROUGH THE SECURITY CHANNEL.

3. I TOLD HIM THAT WE HAVE HAD SOME DISCUSSION IN BEIRUT BETWEEN OUR SECURITY OFFICER AND A PLO SECURITY OFFICIAL. I ALSO MENTIONED THAT WE HAVE HAD CONFLICTING ADVICE FROM VARIOUS PARTIES AS TO THE BEST WAY TO EVACUATE. DID HE HAVE ANY FURTHER THOUGHTS ON THE SUBJECT? AFTER PONDERING FOR SOME LITTLE WHILE, FAHMY OBSERVED THAT THE AIRPORT WOULD BE GOOD IF WE COULD PERSUADE THE KATAIB TO STOP SHELLING. HE CONCEDED, HOWEVER, THAT THE DANGER OF SOME "MADMAN" IN THE HILLS SHOOTING A SAM MISSILE AT THE AIRCRAFT CANNOT BE ENTIRELY ELIMINATED. HE WAS SKEPTICAL OF AN OVERLAND OPTION AND FINALLY COMMENTED THAT, ALL THINGS CONSIDERED, HE THOUGHT THAT A SEA EVACUATION, EITHER FROM BEIRUT OR SIDON, IS PROBABLY BEST. THE PLO WOULD COOPERATE. HE SUGGESTED THAT WE HANDLE SUCH A SEA EVACUATION THE SAME WAY WE DID THE LAST TIME, USING, IF NECESSARY, A NAVAL VESSEL. HAVING ONCE DONE SO SUCCESSFULLY, HE THOUGHT THERE WOULD BE NO ADVERSE REACTING TO HANDLING IT THE SAME WAY.

4. SINCE FAHMY IS LEAVING TOMORROW WITH THE PRESIDENT FOR JIDDA (NOT RIYADH), I ASKED HOW WE COULD GET IN TOUCH WITH HIM OR THE PRESIDENT SHOULD A NEED ARISE IN CONNECTION WITH THE EVACUATION FROM LEBANON OR SOME OTHER MATTER. FAHMY SUGGESTED WE COMMUNICATE ANY SUCH MESSAGES EITHER THROUGH MOHAMED RIAD OR VP MUBARAK, DEPENDING UPON THE SENSITIVITY OF THE MESSAGE.

5. SUGGEST THIS MESSAGE BE REPEATED TO BEIRUT AND JIDDA.  
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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**To:** STATE SS BEIRUT JIDDA  
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